shaws, fitment of safety rods on its right side has been made compulsory. The display of slogans/logos of family welfare on all types of transport vehicles including three-wheeler auto-rickshaw has been as a part of mass campaign for this cause.

Penalising of the striking doctors

3659. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has decided to cut the salaries of service doctors who went on strike in July to press their demand for pay parity with the IAS;

(b) if so, whether the Government had made an assurance to the representatives of these doctors, who negotiated with the Government on their demands that the striking doctors will not be penalised in any way; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons of going back from the assurance given by the Government to the Central Health Service doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (c) The following instruction have been issued in regard to treatment of the strike period in view of the unconditional calling off the strike:—

(i) There shall be no victimisation of the doctors who went on strike;

(ii) Doctors whose services were terminated for participation in the strike be taken back, if they report for duty;

(iii) Doctors who participated in the strike shall not be entitled to pay and allowance for the period of strike but the period of strike has been conddoned in relaxation of Rule 27 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 and Rule 17 A of F.R. The break will not entail forfeiture of past service for pensionary and other service benefits but the actual period of strike itself will not count as qualifying service.

2. The matter regarding payment of pay and allowances for the strike period has been considered by the Government and it has been decided that any departure from the principle of 'No Work No PAY' would be against the accepted policy of the Government.

Bridge on River Gandak

3660. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a foundation stone for the construction of Bridge over CHATUNI-CHAT on up Bihar Border, on River Gandak was laid by the former Prime Minister;

(b) whether the work of the Bridge has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Irrigation had suggested in 1973 that Railways could take advantage of the Flood Control Point to be provided at Chhitauni for a bridge across Gandak River. The cost of the flood protection works was agreed to be shared by Ministry of Irrigation and Governments U.P. and Bihar. The initial deposit was also made by them.

When the scheme was finalised and the cost updated in 1982, the Ministry of Irrigation did not agree to bear their increased share of cost, on the plea that it was no longer a priority flood control work. Government of Bihar asked for refund of their deposit and withdrew their participation.